Topic: Handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver Operation

Audience: Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) Geophysics Team

Participants: 11 Duration: 8 hours

Delivered: June 21-25, 2006

Instructor: Charles Lindsay (USGS)

Summary:

This course presented participants with practical skills required for the operation of a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. Participants used Garmin eTrex Vista GPS receivers to determine location coordinates, barometric pressure, elevation, and magnetic compass bearing. The following topics were discussed:

- 1) different coordinate units and their applications
- 2) different map datums and their application
- 3) geoid models
- 4) the effects of antenna placement on positional accuracy
- 5) waypoint creation and navigation
- 6) track creation

Garmin MapSource software was used to demonstrate how to download GPS data from a receiver, present GPS data graphically, archive GPS data for further use, and export GPS locational data for use in other computer applications such as Excel, Surfer, and GeoSoft.

Participants:

Mohammad Alam Said Ashan Faizulla Sardar Hussain Nassima Jan Abdul Hakim Kohistany Shafiqullah Niazi Ghulam Rahman Ghulam Sakhi Abdul Wassay Mohammad Zia